

At Work For You Everyday!

Annual Report to the Community

March 2006

THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

The Franklin County Board of Health works every day to make life better for all of its citizens by protecting public health, preventing disease and injury, promoting access to health care services and encouraging healthy lifestyles. Our goal is to ensure healthy neighborhoods, workplaces and homes, safe food and water, clean air, protection from the spread of infectious diseases or acts of bioterrorism, and a citizenry that is informed and motivated to take responsibility for their health.

As you browse through this special insert, we hope you are impressed by all of the services that the Franklin County Board of Health offers to you and your family. As your Board of Health, we are at work for you through immunizations, plumbing services, rabies clinics, food service or restaurant inspections, car seat classes, mosquito control, and the list goes on and on. Many of our services happen "behind the scenes" but be assured we are at work for you!

Don't hesitate to contact us or visit our web site to find out even more about what public health can and does do for you.

Susan Tilgner, MS, RD, LD, RS
Health Commissioner

PANDEMIC AND AVIAN INFLUENZA



It's been all the buzz the past few months, pandemic flu. What is it, will it affect me and my family, how do I prepare if when and if it does happen?

Pandemic flu is a global outbreak of disease that occurs when a new influenza A virus appears or "emerges" in the human population, causes serious illness, and then spreads easily from person to person worldwide. You are most likely also hearing a lot about avian influenza which many fear could mutate into the next pandemic flu. Avian influenza is an infection caused by avian (bird) influenza (flu) viruses. Most cases of avian influenza infection in humans have resulted from direct or close contact with infected poultry (e.g., domesticated chicken, ducks, and turkeys) however though rare, there have been isolated cases of human to human transmission of the virus.

At this time, the Franklin County Board of Health is busy preparing for a possible flu pandemic. The Franklin County Board of Health has been working collaboratively with the Columbus Health Department developing pandemic flu and mass vaccination plans as well as participating in region wide exercises. The Franklin County Board of Health continues to track diseases in the community and if a pandemic does occur will coordinate mass vaccination clinics and issue isolation and quarantine orders.

What can you and your family do to prepare? The Franklin County Board of Health has also just began promote a new initiative here in Franklin County, "Ready in 3." This initiative details how to prepare for an emergency in three easy steps: 1. Make A Kit; 2. Make A Plan; and 3. Listen. All residents are encouraged to take the time now to develop an emergency kit and a family communication plan.

For more information about Pandemic Flu or Ready in 3, please visit the Franklin County Board of Health web site at www.franklincountyohio.gov/health or call 614-462-3160.



CLEAN INDOOR AIR IN FRANKLIN COUNTY

Did you know that there are 12 municipalities in Franklin County who currently have some type of clean indoor air ordinance in effect? For more information about ordinances in Franklin County, please go to www.franklincountyohio.gov/health or call 462-4AIR (4247).

Each community has established a public hotline where you can report violations or complaints of the clean indoor air ordinances. Please refer to list below when frequenting establishments in Franklin County.

Columbus 724-4AIR (4247)	Dublin 889-1112	Grandview Heights 462-4AIR (4247)	Hilliard 462-4AIR (4247)	New Albany 855-7547	Westerville 882-7444
Bexley 235-8694	Gahanna 462-4AIR (4247)	Grove City 277-3040	Marble Cliff 486-6993	Upper Arlington 462-4AIR (4247)	Worthington 885-4463



Log onto our web site at www.franklincountyohio.gov/health and fill out our short survey to receive a FREE GIFT while supplies last. Only one gift per household. If you do not have internet access, please call 462-3160 and a survey will be mailed to you.

Franklin County Board of Health

280 East Broad Street • Columbus, OH 43215 • Phone: (614) 462-3160 • Fax: (614) 462-6672
Email: fcbh@franklincountyohio.gov • Web site: www.franklincountyohio.gov/health



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION

Winchester, Groveport, Harrisburg, Lockbourne, Marble Cliff, Minerva Park, New Albany, Obetz, Riverlea, Urbancrest and Valleyview; At Work for You in

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION AT WORK FOR YOU!

PLUMBING INSPECTIONS

The Plumbing Inspection Section staff provides inspections of both residential and commercial plumbing systems that are covered by laws, rules and regulations set by our department and the Ohio Plumbing Code. Our inspectors are certified with the State of Ohio. Whether it is a small home remodel job, a hot water tank installation, an apartment complex or a single family home, our inspectors are there to make sure wastewater gets to the sewer, sewer gas is vented properly, and potable water is available at the correct temperature at every tap.

A total of 12,625 residential and commercial plumbing systems inspections were performed in 2005.

WATER WASTEWATER

The Water and Wastewater Section is ultimately responsible for the safety of drinking water and keeping pollution from septic systems out of our streams, waterways, and water supplies. Staff works to protect human health and environmental quality by making sure that sewage systems and private wells serving individual households are properly installed and maintained. Any complaint that involves unsafe private well water or sewage from a household sewage system is what this section strives to correct. Any subdivision of land involving the use of private sewage systems or wells is subject to review by staff.

During 2005, the Water/Wastewater staff performed 714 private water well inspections, 2,062 private sewage system inspections, 4,998 private aeration system inspections, and 504 semi-public sewage system inspections.

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



The Community Environmental Health Section's primary responsibility is to ensure, maintain and in some cases improve environmental conditions relating to public health. This is accomplished through enforcement of several sections of the Ohio Administrative Code and local Board of Health Sanitary Regulations. The areas which we regulate include public swimming pools and spas, manufactured home parks, RV parks, campgrounds, day camps, tattoo and body piercing establishments, and public and non-public schools. We also respond to public health nuisance conditions, animal bite complaints, rabies control and prevention, housing

and property maintenance complaints, and rodent control. Staff members also provide lead safe housing assessments and investigation of children with elevated blood lead levels. This section also works with other agencies including Adult Protective Services and Franklin County Children Services in order to protect the health and welfare of the elderly and minor children.

In 2005, staff investigated 1,490 public health nuisances and conducted 844 inspections of pools, spas and special use pools. In addition, staff conducted 389 school inspections, 921 animal bite/rabies investigations and 631 lead inspections as well as 320 weed inspections and 197 rodent inspections.

SOLID WASTE AND THE NAIL-A-DUMPER PROGRAM



The Solid, Infectious and Hazardous Materials Section prevents the improper disposal of solid, infectious and hazardous waste in the community. Staff are responsible for regulating and enforcing the disposal of waste into approved facilities (including landfills, compost sites, tire shredding facilities, construction and demolition debris landfills, recycling operations, and infectious waste generators). This section also regulates solid waste disposal vehicles. Our nationally recognized Nail-A-Dumper Program uses inspectors from the City of Columbus Refuse Division, the Franklin County Sheriff's Office and the Franklin County Board of Health to catch illegal dumpers and litterers. A

Franklin County Assistant Prosecutor is also assigned to bring these criminals to justice. To keep our county's solid waste ending up in the right place, your trash is our business.

A total of 1,490 solid waste disposal facility inspections and 1,490 complaint investigations were conducted in 2005.

FOOD PROTECTION



The Food Protection Section's primary responsibility is to protect the community against food-borne illness resulting from health code violations and the improper handling of food. This section inspects food services and food establishments like restaurants, grocery stores and convenience stores. Staff also provides educational sessions for operators to assist them in providing the safest food possible to our communities. Keeping your favorite dining and shopping places safe is the goal of this section.

A total of 6,755 food service inspections were conducted in 2005.

MOSQUITO CONTROL



The mosquito control program was expanded in 2005 to meet the continued threats posed by West Nile Virus and other mosquito-borne diseases. In response to input from the community, a research-based program was developed to reduce the risk of mosquito-borne disease while remaining environmentally responsible.

We also started a partnership program to couple our technical assistance and expertise with communities who have mosquito control equipment and staff to increase our capacity to respond to vector mosquitoes. The program focused on identification of larval habitats and trapping adult mosquitoes to allow us to effectively target problem areas with public education, larval habitat reduction, larviciding, and adulticiding. The increased surveillance also allowed us to evaluate the effectiveness of our control activities and work with partner communities to control the mosquito population. The Mosquito Control Program continued to adapt in 2005. After a 60% increase in West Nile Virus incidence rates in mosquitoes from 2003 to 2004, the program moved to a new facility in 2005 and expanded operations to respond to the greater risk to our community. With increased larviciding and adulticiding efforts, the Board of Health slowed the growth of West Nile in the mosquito population to show an increase of only 36% from 2004.

The program continues to evolve. In 2006, the program plans to continue to expand control efforts to reduce the spread of West Nile Virus in wildlife and reduce the risk of disease to residents.

2005 Mosquito Control in review
988 traps set
113,877 mosquitoes trapped
539 mosquitoes tested positive for West Nile Virus
474 site investigations (59 sites treated)
61 adulticiding area treatments

ENVIRONMENTAL & NURSING SERVICES DIVISIONS

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION SPECIAL PROJECTS AT WORK FOR YOU!

HOUSING SERVICES

Housing Maintenance Code Enforcement: The Environmental Health Division offers a variety of housing related services because poor living conditions can have an effect on public health. We enforce the International Property Maintenance Code for interested jurisdictions in our health district which provides communities with the ability to maintain the quality of existing housing stock if property owners do not take on the responsibility voluntarily. Quality housing is essential to a community's viability, health and quality of life.



Housing Rehabilitation Services: Through a cooperative effort with the Franklin County Board of Commissioners Department of Community and Economic Development, our department is participating in a Federal Community Development Block Grant Program that provides funds for handicap accessibility modifications, urgent repairs, and private sewage system and private well repairs or replacement. This program provides grants to qualified homeowners for emergency repairs of roofs, plumbing and HVAC systems, electrical systems, ramps, bathroom and kitchen modifications, and lift chair systems to provide handicap accessible homes. The program serves all of Franklin County except the City of Columbus.

Safe Housing Services for Veterans and Their Dependents: Under a contract with the Franklin County Veterans Commission and with funding from the Franklin County Commissioners, the Board of Health provides handicap home modifications and other housing rehabilitation services, because our Veterans are our heroes.

WATER QUALITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS



Using Community Block Grant Funds from the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, the Environmental Health Division manages the process of connecting homes to sanitary sewers for qualified homeowners. The Board of Commissioners provide these new sewers using a variety of funding sources in cooperation with the Franklin County Sanitary Engineer, Township elected officials, and the City of Columbus. Starting in mid 2004 and going through 2008, the Water Quality Partnership program will provide sewers to over 1,000 Franklin County residents in over 13 areas, and more importantly, remove these homes from depending on failed sewage systems. This program directly improves public health and stream water quality by removing pollution from streams and drinking water wells.

Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination: With funding from the Franklin County Commissioners and a Partnership with the the Franklin County Engineer, the Franklin County Sanitary Engineer, the Franklin County Department of Planning and Development, the Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Franklin County Township Trustees the Board of Health works to detect and eliminate illicit discharges from septic systems into storm sewer systems. This program is a Federal Mandate from the EPA and will result in a cleaner and healthier environment.

NURSING SERVICES DIVISION AT WORK FOR YOU!

SEASONAL FLU PROGRAM



Influenza is a contagious illness that affects many people in Franklin County each year. The Franklin County Health Department provided over 6,000 flu vaccinations along with pneumonia shots throughout our Franklin County Clinics to children and adults. Clinics were provided through collaboration with our community partners, health care providers and local communities. Appointments were available at many clinic sites as well as "walk-in clinics" from October 2005 through January 2006.

We held 27 flu clinics throughout the community and distributed over 6,000 flu shots in 2005.

BUREAU FOR CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL HANDICAPS



A public health nurse assists children with special health care needs and their families obtain comprehensive care and services. The public health nurse provides case management though referrals to appropriate health care providers, funding services, and collaboration with community health care and educational providers. Presentations by the Public Health Nurses are available by calling 462-5960. Referrals for children with special needs can be made by anyone by calling 462-5960.

2,305 Franklin Cuntly families enrolled in the BCMH program in 2005. Nurses from the Board of Health made 7,021 patient contacts with these families.

SENIOR WELLNESS CLINICS

The Wellness Clinic is a monthly clinic available at 19 sites throughout Franklin County. Health assessments, adult immunizations and screenings for Cholesterol are available by appointment and for a nominal fee. Individuals requesting a Cholesterol test are asked to fast for 8 hours and the fee is \$25. The cholesterol screening checks total cholesterol, Low Density Lipoprotein (LDL), High Density Lipoprotein (HDL) and triglyceride levels, ratio, and blood glucose. All tests remain confidential and are reviewed with the individual. Contact 462-3719 for times and locations of screenings.

2,367 clients were seen at 21 wellness clinics throughout Franklin County. All clients received a health assessment including blood pressure and other services such as cholesterol and blood sugar tests as requested.

IMMUNIZATIONS...ARE YOU UP-TO DATE? VACCINATE!

Immunization is the single most important way you can protect yourself and your family from serious diseases. Immunization available for infants and children include hepatitis B, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, H. influenza type b, pneumococcal conjugate, polio, chickenpox, meningococcal, measles, mumps, rubella, influenza for high risk children and hepatitis A. The Franklin County Board of Health works to ensure that all infants and children have access to required immunizations by offering 14 walk-in immunization clinics throughout the county each month. There is a small administration fee for childhood immunizations, but no one will be denied required vaccinations if unable to pay. Please call 462-3635 about clinic locations and times.

In 2005, 1,954 patient contacts were made though the Board of Health immunization clinics with a total of 4,746 immunizations given.

Adult immunization provided by FCBH include: the new tetanus-diphtheria, and pertussis vaccine for ages 11 years to 64 years, varicella, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, flu, pneumonia, and meningococcal. Adult vaccines are provided for a fee.

SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION PROJECTS AT WORK FOR YOU!

RADON

In 2005 the Board of Health staff, in cooperation with our community partners, established a series of locations throughout Columbus and Franklin County where residents can pick up a free, short-term radon testing kit. The Ohio Department of Health provides the kits to us for distribution through a State grant from USEPA. Kits are available at the following locations:



The Gillie Center 2100 Morse Rd.	Westerville Fire Dept. 400 W Main St.	Whitehall Fire Dept. 390 S Yearling Rd.
Southside Pride Center 310 E Innis Ave.	Madison Township Fire Dept. 4567 Firehouse Ln.	Mifflin Township Fire Dept. 475 Rocky Fork Blvd.
Upper Arlington Fire Office 3600 Tremont Rd.	Truro Township Fire Dept. 6900 E Main St.	Worthington Fire Dept. 6500 N High St.
Jackson Township Fire Dept. 3650 Hoover Rd.	Grandview Heights Fire Dept. 1016 Grandview Ave.	Washington Twp Fire Dept. 6255 Sheir - Rings Rd.

HOTEL SANITARY ORDINANCE

Board of Health staff, and representatives of most of the municipalities in Franklin County, fire departments, the State Fire Marshal worked together to develop a Model Hotel Sanitation Ordinance that the cities in Franklin County could adopt to address numerous complaints from the public concerning unsanitary and unhealthy conditions in local hotels and motels. The Model Ordinance sets minimal standards for cleanliness and sanitation for hotels and motels, and requires them to be inspected twice a year. Several representatives of the lodging industry in the county reviewed and commented on the draft. A final version of the ordinance was made available to all of the municipalities in Franklin County with hotels in June, 2005. Since then, Grove City, Hilliard and Grandview Heights have adopted the ordinance, and several other cities and villages are in the process of adopting it.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION AT WORK FOR YOU!

THE BOARD

The Board of Health consists of five members who are each appointed to a five-year term. All members must reside within the General Health District, may not hold an elected office, should be knowledgeable in the field of public health, and at least one member shall be a physician licensed to practice medicine within the state.

The Board must meet at least once a month and may hold as many special meetings as it deems necessary. The Franklin County Board of Health meets regularly on the second Tuesday of each month at Memorial Hall located at 280 East Broad Street in Columbus. All meetings are open to the public. To carry out day-to-day functions, the Board appoints a Health Commissioner who is the Executive Officer and Secretary of the Board. Susan A. Tilgner has served as Health Commissioner since April of 1999.

Board Members

Jack R. Bope, Jr. • Dana L. McDaniel • Annemarie Sommer, MD • Robert S. Steele • Joseph P. Weaver, RS

FRANKLIN COUNTY DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL



The Franklin County District Advisory Council appoints the members of the Board Health. The District Advisory Council is made up of the Chairman of each group Township Trustees, the Mayor of each Village and the President of the Board of County Commissioners. The makeup and creation of the Council was determined the State Legislature in 1919. As required by state statute, the District Advisory Council must meet annually in March with the Health Commissioner for the purpose appointing its officers (Chairman and Secretary) and a member to the Board of Health. The 2005 annual meeting was held on March 23, 2005. The District

Advisory Council appointed Joseph Weaver to serve on the Board of Health for a five-year term that expires in 2010.

HEALTH DISTRICT LICENSING COUNCIL

The Health District Licensing Council (HDLC) was created by State Law in 2002. Members are appointed by the Franklin County District Advisory Council and one member holds a seat on the Franklin County Board of Health. The HDLC consists of one representative of each business activity for which the Board of Health operates a licensing program. The HDLC serves in an advisory capacity to the Board of Health.

OUR BUDGET

In 2004, the Franklin County Board of Health had an operating budget of \$6,130,214.78. Our revenue for the year was \$5,382,468.51 and our expenditures were \$5,220,058.52. Being a service-based agency, the majority of our expenditures were for personnel services. Other expenditures included materials and supplies, services and charges, and capital outlays. Our revenue is collected through several avenues including property taxes, intergovernmental charges, charges for services, licenses and permits, and fines and forfeitures.



Franklin County Board of Health

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Susan A. Tilgner, MS, RD, LD, RS - *Health Commissioner*
Miller J. Sullivan, MD - *Medical Director*
Nancy I. Pry, RN - *Assistant Health Commissioner of Nursing Services*
Paul A. Rosile, MPH, RS - *Assistant Health Commissioner of Environmental Services*



Need Help?
Have a Question?

General Information
462-3160

Animal Bites/Rabies Control/
Lost Animals
462-4538

Birth or Death Certificates
(handled by the Columbus
Health Department)
645-7331

Bureau for Children with
Medical Handicaps (BCMh)
462-5960

Clean Indoor Air Ordinances
462-4247

Communicable Disease
462-3845

Emergency Preparedness
462-3699

Environmental Complaints
& Services
462-3160

Food Service Licenses &
Permits
462-5258

Food Service Complaints
462-3855

Health Education
462-6668

Immunization Services
462-3635

Lead Poisoning Prevention
462-3927

Medical Gas Line Permits
462-3559

Mosquito Control
462-2483

Nail-A-Dumper Hotline
871-5322

Plumbing Inspections
462-3559

Septic and Well Permits
462-3559

Solid Waste Complaints
462-3554

Water Testing
462-3559

Wellness Clinics for Seniors
462-3719